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GOVERNMENT ORDERS CONSERVATION OF PACKING MATERIAL;
UNIONS TO SUPERVISE COMMERCIAL SERVICES

PACKING MATERIAL TO BE RE-USED -- Tirana Bashkimi, 1 Apr 50

In Order No 12 of 2 March 1950, the Council of Ministers has ordered the conservation and return of packing materials, standardization of types and prices of these materials, and measures to promote conservation of packing materials and rapid circulation of goods, as follows:

The Ministry of Industry is responsible for the production and repair of barrels, egg boxes, apple crates, vegetable crates, and boxes for other materials for export. The individual enterprises concerned shall be responsible for obtaining packing materials for goods for domestic consumption.

The Central Union of Artisan Cooperatives shall be responsible for the production and repair of barrels, bags, straw mats, bottles, glass stoppers, baskets, cement bags, egg crates, fowl crates, and boxes for soap, macaroni, marmalade, apples, grapes, figs, vegetables, etc.

The Ministry of Industry shall be responsible for erecting factories for the production and repair of packing materials, bearing in mind the location of sources of raw materials and the demand for packing materials.

Sawmill waste shall be utilized for packing.

Enterprises, institutions, and cooperative organizations that use large amounts of packing materials shall provide facilities for repairing them.

No packing materials shall be imported if they can be produced in Albania.

The Central Union of Commercial Cooperatives shall organize the purchase, from private individuals, of all kinds of packing materials in good condition or suitable for repair. They shall be paid for at prices determined by the Ministries of Commerce and Finance.

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Enterprises, institutions, and cooperative organizations shall take an inventory of packing materials within 30 days after the effective date of this order, and 5 days thereafter shall send one copy of it to the agency concerned. The central agencies shall present a general inventory to the State Planning Commission not more than 10 days after they receive these inventories.

The State Planning Commission shall authorize the distribution of surplus packing materials on the basis of applications, within 30 days after the presentation of the general inventory.

The enterprises, institutions, and cooperative organizations shall return packing materials to the suppliers within the period stipulated in the contract between the buyer and seller of the goods.

The transportation agencies are responsible for protecting packing materials from damage in transit and in the transportation depots.

The transportation enterprises shall return packing materials to the seller within 5 or 10 days after loading, depending on the method of shipment.

The contracts between buyers and sellers shall stipulate what packing materials are to be returned to the seller.

When a buyer does not return the packing materials on time, he shall pay the seller 5 percent of their value for every day he is late, and the following fines shall be levied: ten times the value of the packing materials in the case of oil barrels, oxygen tanks, sugar bags, salt bags, flour, rice, grain, and cement bags, beer barrels, and beer bottles; six times their value for kegs and alcoholic beverage bottles, egg crates, fowl crates, and macaroni boxes; three times their value for other packing materials. Those fined shall be prosecuted under criminal law.

PROVIDES STRICTER CONTROL -- Tirana Bashkimi, 1 Apr 50

Tirana (Albanian Telegraphic Agency) -- The Council of Ministers, recognizing that the commercial services, the turnover and distribution of goods, and the preservation of goods in state and cooperative centers have not been completely satisfactory because of a lack of strict control, orders that the Professional [i.e., Trade] Unions shall exercise supervision over the commercial services.

The Presidium of the Central Council of the Professional Unions of Albania shall issue special regulations for the selection and qualifications of inspectors, who will perform the following duties on behalf of the Professional Unions:

1. Inspect the stores, restaurants, bakeries, mess halls, depots, etc., of the state and cooperative sectors, with a view to assuring quick, good, and proper service for consumers.
2. See that goods are kept in suitable places so that loss and spoilage may be reduced.
3. See that commercial centers of public service are kept clean and that all hygienic regulations are observed.

The Ministries of Commerce and Health shall give every assistance to the inspectors.

The Central Council of the Professional Unions of Albania shall be responsible for working out the details and issuing instructions for the execution of this decision.

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